

among the tangled roots and algae. Both species seemed to be commonest along the inner edge of the mats where sand, marl, or silty sand made a small "beach" beneath the roots. Both could be driven out into the open water only with difficulty, and immediately swam back toward the shore. It was noticed that in nearly all places along the shore small fish were common and would dart inshore toward any insect which was displaced into the deeper water. This suggests that the amount and kind of vegetation affects the abundance of the water beetles only indirectly.

Other beetles associated with the floating root mats were: *Hydroporus clypealis* Sharp, *H. lobatus* Sharp, *Bidessus lacustris* (Say), *Coptotomus interrogatus obscurus* Sharp, *Helochares maculicollis* Mulsant, *Enochrus ochraceus* (Melsh.), and adults and larvae of *Dubiraphai quadrinotata* (Say).

It seems probable that situations similar to B-4 are the characteristic minor habitat of *Hydroporus dixianus* in streams where predators are abundant. It was later found in much the same situation in Spring Creek at U. S. Highway 84 (Decatur County, Georgia). No similar mats could be found along the Apalachicola River at U. S. Highway 90, but several specimens of *dixianus* and *vittatipennis* were found beneath a few roots of willows dangling in the water. *Dixianus* was not found in the Chattahoochee River at Butler's Landing nor at Florida Highway 2 (Ga. 91). Intensive collecting in smaller streams in the area often produced *vittatipennis* but not *dixianus*. *Vittatipennis* was taken in large numbers in the sandy and silty margins of springs (now submerged) along the Flint River in 1953, but no mats similar to those in Spring Creek were noted.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- FALL, H. C. 1917. New Dytiscidae. Jour. New York Ent. Soc., Vol. 25, pp. 173-174.  
 YOUNG, F. N. 1954. The water beetles of Florida. Univ. of Florida Studies, Biological Science Series, Vol. 5. p. 85.

#### A DERMESTID IN POISON IVY

*Apsectus hispidus* (Melsh.) is an additional record to the lists published in this Bulletin by authors interested in insects feeding on poison ivy and its allies, *Toxicodendron* — section of the genus *Rhus*. LeConte and Horn (1883, Smithson. Misc. Coll. 507, p. 143, probably quoting Jayne) state: "Apsectus has but one

species, found in the Atlantic States; one specimen in my possession was hatched from a tumor on a stem of *Rhus radicans*." I can find no other record in the literature that might help to clarify this observation. — S. D. HICKS, *Systematic Entomology Unit, Entomology Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa*.